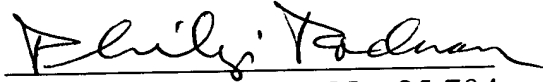


REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are made for the purpose of reducing the filing fee of this application by eliminating the multiple claim dependencies.

A Second Preliminary Amendment accompanies this First Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: December 23, 2005

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